

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A WWW server on the Internet enabling browsing and/or evaluation of information provided in relation to a proposed theme, as well as managing users' points accompanying proposal, provision, browsing and/or evaluation of the information; said users accessing said server through respective user terminals being managed by respective user IDs; said each user ID being made to correspond to points which increase/decrease according to such as acceptance/giving of various information through said WWW server; and user information such as said user ID and said points being recorded to an appropriate database,

wherein said WWW server comprises the following items (1)-(9):

(1) in accordance [[to]] with an operational input of a first user through the user terminal, the server sends, to said user terminal, data for generating an input-accepting screen for inputting a theme for collecting information;

(2) the server accepts said information-collecting theme inputted through said input-accepting screen displayed on said user terminal, and records the theme to an appropriate storage means;

(3) in accordance [[to]] with an operational input of a second user through the user terminal, the server sends, to said user terminal, data for generating a screen for displaying said information-collecting theme and for accepting input of information relating to said theme;

(4) the server records, to said storage means, said theme-related information inputted through said information-accepting screen displayed on said user terminal;

(5) in accordance [[to]] with an operational input of a third user through the user terminal, the server sends, to said user terminal, data for generating a screen for displaying said information-collecting theme and said theme-related information;

(6) the server decreases the points of the third user who browsed said theme-related information, and records this to said database;

(7) in accordance ~~[[to]]~~ with said theme-related information being browsed, the server increases the points of the first user who proposed said theme, and records this to said database;

(8) the server accepts the third user's evaluation of said theme-related information through said user terminal, and records the evaluation to said storage means; and

(9) in accordance ~~[[to]]~~ with the obtained evaluation result, the server calculates said points of ~~said~~ the second user who provided said theme-related information, and records this to said database.

2. (original) A WWW server according to claim 1, wherein said evaluation of said theme-related information in said item (8) is a result of a vote accepted from said user terminal.

3. (currently amended) A WWW server according to claim 1, wherein the server decreases the points of the first user who proposed said information-collecting theme, and records this to said database.

4. (original) A WWW server according to claim 1, wherein said calculation of said points in said item (9) is an addition process.

5. (currently amended) ~~A WWW server according to claim 1, wherein a billing process to said user is conducted instead of said decreasing of said points~~

A WWW server on the Internet enabling browsing and/or evaluation of information provided in relation to a proposed theme, as well as managing users' points accompanying proposal, provision, browsing and/or evaluation of the information; said users accessing said server through respective user terminals being managed by respective user IDs; said each user ID being made to correspond to points which increase/decrease according to such as acceptance/giving of various information through said WWW server; and user information such as said user ID and said points being recorded to an appropriate database,

wherein said WWW server comprises the following items (1)-(9):

(1) in accordance with an operational input of a first user through the user terminal, the server sends, to said user terminal, data for generating an input-accepting screen for inputting a theme for collecting information;

(2) the server accepts said information-collecting theme inputted through said input-accepting screen displayed on said user terminal, and records the theme to an appropriate storage means;

(3) in accordance with an operational input of a second user through the user terminal, the server sends, to said user terminal, data for generating a screen for displaying said information-collecting theme and for accepting input of information relating to said theme;

(4) the server records, to said storage means, said theme-related information inputted through said information-accepting screen displayed on said user terminal;

(5) in accordance with an operational input of a third user through the user terminal, the server sends, to said user terminal, data for generating a screen for displaying said information-collecting theme and said theme-related information;

(6) a billing process to the third user who browsed said theme-related information is conducted;

(7) in accordance with said theme-related information being browsed, the server increases the points of the first user who proposed said theme, and records this to said database;

(8) the server accepts the third user's evaluation of said theme-related information through said user terminal, and records the evaluation to said storage means; and

(9) in accordance with the obtained evaluation result, the server calculates said points of the second user who provided said theme-related information, and records this to said database.

6. (currently amended) A method for operating a WWW server connected to user terminals through the Internet in order to enable browsing and/or evaluation of information provided in relation to a proposed theme, as well as manage users' points accompanying proposal, provision, browsing and/or evaluation of the information; said users accessing said server through respective user terminals being managed by respective user IDs; said each user ID being made to correspond to points which increase/decrease according to such as

acceptance/giving of various information through said server; and user information such as said user ID and said points being recorded to an appropriate database,

wherein said method for operating said WWW server comprises the following steps (A)-(I):

(A) a step of sending, in accordance ~~[[to]]~~ with an operational input of ~~the~~ a first user through the user terminal, data for generating an input-accepting screen for inputting a theme for collecting information to said user terminal;

(B) a step of accepting said information-collecting theme inputted through said input-accepting screen displayed on said user terminal, and recording the theme to an appropriate storage means;

(C) a step of sending, in accordance ~~[[to]]~~ with an operational input of a second user through the user terminal, data for generating a screen for displaying said information-collecting theme and for accepting input of information relating to said theme to said user terminal;

(D) a step of recording, to said storage means, said theme-related information inputted through said information-accepting screen displayed on said user terminal;

(E) a step of sending, in accordance ~~[[to]]~~ with an operational input of a third user through the user terminal, data for generating a screen for displaying said information-collecting theme and said theme-related information to said user terminal;

(F) a step of decreasing the points of the third user who browsed said theme-related information, and recording this to said database;

(G) a step of increasing, in accordance ~~[[to]]~~ with said theme-related information being browsed, the points of the first user who proposed said theme, and recording this to said database;

(H) a step of accepting the third user's evaluation of said theme-related information through said user terminal, and recording the evaluation to said storage means; and

(I) a step of calculating, in accordance ~~[[to]]~~ with the obtained evaluation result, said points of ~~said~~ the second user who provided said theme-related information, and recording this to said database.

7. (original) A method for operating a WWW server according to claim 6, wherein said evaluation of said theme-related information in said step (H) is a result of a vote accepted from said user terminal.

8. (currently amended) A method for operating a WWW server according to claim 6, wherein the points of the first user who proposed said information-collecting theme are decreased, and this is recorded to said database.

9. (original) A method for operating a WWW server according to claim 6, wherein said calculation of said points in said step (I) is an addition process.

10. (currently amended) ~~A method for operating a WWW server according to claim 6, wherein a billing process to said user is conducted instead of said decreasing of said points~~

A method for operating a WWW server connected to user terminals through the Internet in order to enable browsing and/or evaluation of information provided in relation to a proposed theme, as well as manage users' points accompanying proposal, provision, browsing and/or evaluation of the information; said users accessing said server through respective user terminals being managed by respective user IDs; said each user ID being made to correspond to points which increase/decrease according to such as acceptance/giving of various information through said server; and user information such as said user ID and said points being recorded to an appropriate database,

wherein said method for operating said WWW server comprises the following steps (A)-(I):

(A) a step of sending, in accordance with an operational input of a first user through the user terminal, data for generating an input-accepting screen for inputting a theme for collecting information to said user terminal;

(B) a step of accepting said information-collecting theme inputted through said input-accepting screen displayed on said user terminal, and recording the theme to an appropriate storage means;

(C) a step of sending, in accordance with an operational input of a second user through the user terminal, data for generating a screen for displaying said information-collecting theme and for accepting input of information relating to said theme to said user terminal;

(D) a step of recording, to said storage means, said theme-related information inputted through said information-accepting screen displayed on said user terminal;

(E) a step of sending, in accordance with an operational input of a third user through the user terminal, data for generating a screen for displaying said information-collecting theme and said theme-related information to said user terminal;

(F) a step of conducting a billing process to the third user who browsed said theme-related information;

(G) a step of increasing, in accordance with said theme-related information being browsed, the points of the first user who proposed said theme, and recording this to said database;

(H) a step of accepting the third user's evaluation of said theme-related information through said user terminal, and recording the evaluation to said storage means; and

(I) a step of calculating, in accordance with the obtained evaluation result, said points of the second user who provided said theme-related information, and recording this to said database.